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**Name of Organization:** Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

**Type of Organization:** State

**Contact Information:** Mr. Dave Lundberg

Department of Natural Resources

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**Project Title:** Reduction of PBT emissions from Burn Barrels

**Project Category:** Pollution Prevention and Reduction - BNS

**Rank by Organization (if applicable):** 2

**Total Funding Requested (\$):** 30,000 **Project Duration:** 1 Years

**Abstract:**

This project is designed to implement a public information campaign aimed at reducing household garbage incineration in Wisconsin with particular emphasis on reducing mercury and dioxins in those rural areas adjacent to the Great Lakes. Existing television and radio Public Service Announcements by EPA and other states will be reviewed and adapted for use in the state.

The public information campaign while directed at the impacts of these toxics on the Great Lakes will identify the other benefits of not burning such as recycling other wastes being burned, the hazards of dumping the ash in gardens, and being good stewards of the land. The PSA will also make people aware of household hazardous waste collection programs in their area.

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**Geographic Areas Affected by the Project**

**States:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/> New York
<input type="checkbox"/> Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania
<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wisconsin
<input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota	<input type="checkbox"/> Ohio

**Lakes:**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Superior	<input type="checkbox"/> Erie
<input type="checkbox"/> Huron	<input type="checkbox"/> Ontario
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> All Lakes

**Geographic Initiatives:**

☐ Greater Chicago   ☐ NE Ohio   ☐ NW Indiana   ☐ SE Michigan   ☐ Lake St. Clair

**Primary Affected Area of Concern:**

**Other Affected Areas of Concern:** Counties Adjacent to Lake Superior and Lake Michigan

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***For Habitat Projects Only:***

**Primary Affected Biodiversity Investment Area:**

**Other Affected Biodiversity Investment Areas:**

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**Problem Statement:**

It is estimated that 500,000 burn barrels are used by residents of the state to dispose of household waste. While no firm estimates are available for dioxin recent estimates by the Wisconsin DNR based upon studies conducted by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency indicate that about 270 lbs of Hg are emitted annually in the state from burn barrels. In some rural counties adjacent to the Great Lakes these burn barrels may be the largest sources of toxics entering the lake in these areas. Of particular concern are the targeted Persistent Bioaccumulative toxics, namely, mercury and dioxin.

**Proposed Work Outcome:**

The proposed work outcome would be radio and/or television PSAs targeted to the reduction of toxics being emitted from burn barrels in the Great Lakes basin with particular emphasis directed at the Lake Superior and Lake Michigan areas. Existing PSAs would be reviewed and adapted for the specific message intended. These PSAs would be coordinated with other toxic reduction activities in the area so that recipients of the message would be directed to alternatives for disposal.

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**Project Milestones:**

**Dates:**

Project Start

05/2000

Review existing PSA

07/2000

Adapt existing PSA

09/2000

Run PSA

10/2000

Complete PSA run

05/2001

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Project End

06/2001

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☐ Project Addresses Environmental Justice

**If So, Description of How:**

☒ Project Addresses Education/Outreach

**If So, Description of How:**

The primary emphasis of these PSA's is to foster better stewardship of our air, land and water resources by making people aware that backyard burning contributes to the degradation of these resources. Backyard household garbage incineration is a cheap and convenient solution for many rural residents who may not be aware that they contribute to the problem of toxics in the Great Lakes. Much information in the media today regarding mercury and dioxin has emphasized the contribution of large emitters of mercury from coal burning or in the case of dioxins from large scale incineration without explaining the accumulative contribution from all sources and the impact they have.

These PSAs will attempt to reduce household incineration by cultivating good stewardship practices and by providing information to the public where they can properly dispose or recycle their waste.

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**Project Budget:**

	<b>Federal Share Requested (\$)</b>	<b>Applicant's Share (\$)</b>
<b>Personnel:</b>	10,000	5,000
<b>Fringe:</b>	0	0
<b>Travel:</b>	0	0
<b>Equipment:</b>	0	0
<b>Supplies:</b>	0	0
<b>Contracts:</b>	0	0
<b>Construction:</b>	0	0
<b>Other:</b>	20,000	0
<b>Total Direct Costs:</b>	30,000	5,000
<b>Indirect Costs:</b>	0	0
<b>Total:</b>	30,000	5,000
<b>Projected Income:</b>	0	0

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**Funding by Other Organizations (Names, Amounts, Description of Commitments):**

At this time no other direct funding has been solicited.

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**Description of Collaboration/Community Based Support:**

In those counties adjacent to the Great Lakes it is anticipated that local environmental organizations, solid waste and recycling authorities, educational extension groups such as the University of Wisconsin or other local colleges, and those agencies responsible for household hazardous waste collection will be consulted with. The Lake Superior Basin already has a citizen group made up of representatives of the four counties bordering this lake. One of this group's high priority items is mercury in the basin.